




MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
NO. LTC # 139-2006

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: May 19, 2006

SUBJECT: 63rd Street Bridge Rehabilitation/Indian Creek Reconstruction/Flyover Demolition.

This Letter to the Commission is to provide you with an update on the 63rd Street Bridge Rehabilitation/Indian Creek Reconstruction/ Flyover Demolition Project (the Project).

After meetings with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) officials and the Governor by Mayor Dermer, Commissioner Steinberg and myself, we have been just informed that the Project will start on May 31, 2006. As direct result of the City's outreach FDOT has agreed that even though a further delay in the Project has not been approved, no Maintenance of Traffic (permanent lane closures) will occur until the City completes the removal of bulb outs, landscaping, fire hydrants and streetlights on the east side of Collins Avenue from 63rd Street to 71st Street. FDOT has agreed that the City can remove these bulb outs in order to provide a third northbound lane on Collins Avenue to minimize the impact on northbound traffic caused by the elimination of northbound lanes on Indian Creek Drive during the first five months of the project. The removal of the bulb outs is planned to start this weekend and is expected to be completed on or about June 4, 2006.

In addition FDOT after meetings with the Mayor, Commissioner Steinberg and the City Manager has agreed to the following additional mitigation measures on the City of Miami Beach Project and the Biscayne Boulevard Project:

1. Not to start construction of the Biscayne Boulevard 67th to 78th Street section until after the 63rd Street Bridge Rehabilitation/Indian Creek Reconstruction/Demolition project is completed.
2. Assure that two Miami Beach entry points on Biscayne Boulevard are fully operational to facilitate going east/west traffic before the start of the Flyover Project. Biscayne Boulevard at 36th Street leads into Julia Tuttle and Biscayne Boulevard at 79th Street leads into the 79th Street Bridge.
3. Accelerate the construction completion of the 37th to 67th Street section of Biscayne Boulevard through contractor incentives.
4. Add an additional southbound lane on Indian Creek Phase I Maintenance of Traffic.
5. Accelerate the completion of the Miami Beach project through further contractor incentives.
6. Provide a northbound lane on Indian Creek Drive as early as possible.

7. Add a second lane over the bridge in Phase II resulting in three travel lanes over the bridge.
8. Delay the start up of the Miami Beach project if necessary to complete the removal of all the bulb outs on Collins Avenue from 63rd to 71st Street to create another northbound lane. The City is still discussing with FDOT the possibility of reimbursement for this work.
9. Restore at FDOT cost the demolished bulb outs along Collins Avenue after the 63rd Street Bridge Project is completed.
10. Enter in a "Hire-back" contract with the City to provide at FDOT cost, enhanced public safety and enhanced traffic management for the duration of the project.

We will provide a more fully detailed LTC in the next week.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other concerns or questions.

RCM/FHB/nl

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